**Gift Shop Update**

On Thursday, January 8th, 2015, four very excited ladies ventured off on the buying adventure of the year. “TO MARKET, TO MARKET, TO BUY A FAT PIG, OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT”! Our buying trip was not for the faint and weak hearted at all, and required lots of focus and vision for what Sacred Heart Hospital Guild Gift Shop buyers are looking for. You ask “What is the Atlanta market?” The producers of this market describe it this way. “Located in downtown Atlanta, the 'AmericasMart' complex contains more than seven million square feet of space. It’s a huge global stage on which manufacturers, designers and sales representatives unveil new lines, launch new designs and introduce new categories – all for the benefit of buyers seeking all that is fresh and first in the home, rug, gift and apparel arenas.” We sought to prove them correct by bringing in the most exciting and unique products for your shopping enjoyment. We always look forward to going on this trip, and for me, it developed my avenues’ of creativity and stimulus. Many people think that we go on just a “FUN” trip, but believe me, it was far more than that. It is very difficult work making choices for what we bring back to you for the entire year. Fortunately, we got to take advantage of a CASH AND CARRY sale where we could select and buy small quantities of items and bring them immediately back for your enjoyment. We will be offering these items to you for our VALENTINES DAY SALE, the week of Feb. 9-14th. Be sure to mark your calendar for this event and see what new and exciting items we selected for you.

FYI: Our Holiday Extravaganza went very well, considering the fact that “we were not going to have this event this past year”. Our sales ran about $40,000 for the two months, which is a pretty good showing of “shopping while serving others!” My thanks to each of our Gift Shop volunteers who worked their regular shifts as well as other times during the two months’ time frame. Many of you got to experience the homemade cookies that they brought to help you enjoy the show. Lots of work goes into an event like the Holiday Extravaganza, but none of it would have been successful without YOU, our guests. Thank you for your support of our efforts and for you spreading the news about the show. The Guild looks forward to providing a check to the Hospital Foundation soon, with the monies made.

I want to wish you a very happy 2015, and one filled with many enjoyable shopping experiences with us.

Barby Parks, Manager/buyer

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**Finance Committee Report**

We are now half way through the 2014-15 fiscal year for the Guild. It is exciting to report that the Guild just surpassed $500,000 in giving to the Sacred Heart Foundation for hospital capital projects and Mission Services, and scholarships at local colleges and Associate reimbursements for certifications and tuitions.

Specifically, the total giving through December, 2014 has been $500,086, broken down as follows:

- Mission Services: $65,300.
- Hospital Capital Projects: $342,334.
- Scholarships/Reimbursements: $92,552.

During the next six months of the fiscal year, we anticipate the following additional gifting to the hospital and for education:

- Mission Services: $3,000.
- Hospital Capital Projects: $60,000.
- Scholarships/Reimbursements: $7,420.

Assuming the above figures, by July 1, 2015 the total giving to the hospital and education by the Guild will be approximately $570,500.00 over the past 11 years. This has been accomplished by the continued support of the Guild Gift Shops and the Duck Regatta (and various other past fund raisers) by our Associates, Volunteers, and the general community of Walton and Okaloosa counties.

Thanks to all!!

Barry Parks,
Finance Chair
Sacred Heart Hospital Guild...
Building on Success
By: Joe Johnston

Time moves on...and all too fast. It is hard to believe that our hospital Guild has been in place going on 12 years. The Guild was formed a few months before the hospital opened in Jan 2003. One of our major objectives was to recruit and train volunteers....and what a turn out we had....over 400 volunteers signed up. For the first many months the average census was 25 to 30 patients and not many cars in the parking lot. It wasn't unusual to have, on any given day, more volunteers on site than hospital staff. Attrition came into play and going into 2004 our number of volunteers leveled off to the number we have today. How things have changed – it's not too unusual to have 70 patients on our daily census, and parking at a premium.

I am looking forward to serving as the 2015 Guild Board President, and feel very fortunate to be surrounded by a group of dedicated Board members, who give so much of their time and talents. As a Guild, we will focus on our strengths and strive toward continuous improvement. We will continue our close relationship with hospital Administration and Associates for direction, making certain our funding and volunteer support services meet their needs. Our Gift Shop continues to be our major source of revenue, supported by our annual Duck Regatta. Please see Finance Chair, Barry Parks', article in this issue for a comprehensive overview of our financial contributions to our hospital and staff educational scholarship and reimbursement initiatives.

I would like to thank Kathy Hamilton, 2014 Guild President, not only for her leadership over the past 12 months but for all she has done and continues to do for our hospital.

As we say goodbye to former Guild Board members John Barnhart, Barb Borchert, and Irene Soper, whose past contributions are so greatly appreciated, we welcome new Board members Lisa Frisard, fundraising co-chair, Mary Olson, Publicity Chair, and Garnet Vota, Parliamentarian. If you have an interest in serving on our board as our Social Event Chair please let me, or Sharon Abele, know.

Sacred Heart is truly blessed to have 230 active Volunteers serving throughout our hospital. Since the hospital opened volunteers have contributed over 370,000 hours of service. These service hours not only represent a tremendous cost savings for the hospital, but equally important, the volunteer presence brings a welcoming atmosphere and a positive attitude to those who come to Sacred Heart for compassionate care and healing of the body, mind, and spirit. Thank you for what you do and for doing it so well.

May the New Year bring happiness, good health, and God’s blessings.

Joe Johnston
2015 Guild Board President
WONDERFUL NEWS FROM THE GUILD’S EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Our goal this year has been to focus on our Sacred Heart on the Emerald Coast Associates. We’re pleased to tell you that thirteen Associates have benefited from the programs year to date.

Three of a total of six scholarships awarded at Northwest Florida State College went to SHHEC Associates. We gave four scholarships at Gulf Coast State College; all of these went to Bay Medical Associates. We are encouraging all SHHEC Associates who may be attending either of these schools to contact Sharon Abele or their managers if they have questions or need help applying.

Six SHHEC Associates have received reimbursement for Certifications in their fields of specialization, and four Associates have received Tuition Reimbursement (max $1,000).

Both of these are new or modified programs for the Guild, and we’re very excited that our Associates have benefited. The best news is that we still have over $7,000 available for all Education Committee projects (2014-2015 Budget).

As you talk with the Associates you work with, please encourage them to take advantage of these programs.
Volunteer Spotlight - VERA BROWN

Ms. Vera Brown, at the young age of 88 years, recently went hunting in Wisconsin, a birthday gift from her son. Since she had to buy camouflage gear for the trip, she and her son now have another trip planned in the near future. And, yes, of course, she got a deer. Vera’s only other hunting adventure was in Oregon last October. How many 88 year olds do you know that take up deer hunting at this age! As many of you know Vera, you will not be surprised to know that the highlight of her hunting trip was enjoying the success of an eleven year old boy who had cancer and who bagged an elk on day one!

Vera is from southern Alabama and was born December 20, 1926. After her husband retired, they moved to the Destin area (1969) and started their own real estate company, Holiday Realty Management. This was when Destin was still that sleepy little fishing village with no sidewalks and the only grocery store was the Jitney Jungle in Ft. Walton Beach. After living on Bay Drive in Ft. Walton Beach, she and her husband were one of the first owners in the Jetty East condo, having moved in while sections of the condominium were still under construction.

In 1984 her husband died and Vera took a job with an auction company, travelling all over the country selling foreclosed properties as well as multi-million dollar homes. She also spent ten years working for Ralph Lauren at the outlet stores which she loved. Vera’s son Mike lives in Montgomery, Alabama. He is an attorney and works for orthopedic and ophthalmology organizations. Even though he would like her to move to Montgomery, she is firmly rooted here in Destin. Lucky for Sacred Heart Hospital and all her friends.

She still walks every day and takes good care of herself, eating a healthful diet. Vera is living proof of what exercise, eating well and being active in the community can do for you.

Written by Sacred Heart Volunteer
Susan Estis
Family Birth Place Welcome Desk Volunteers Needed

The Family Birth Place welcome desk is one of the quietest volunteer opportunity areas that we have at our Sacred Heart Hospital, and yet it is also one of the most important areas that we assist with, from a patient safety standpoint. We are in need volunteers at the welcome desk not only to provide excellent customer service to our families and their visitors, but also to keep our staff informed regarding moms arriving in labor and in need of assistance.

If you have friends and/or family members that you think would like to volunteer in a quieter and primarily a sitting volunteer position, please ask them to contact our Volunteer Services office at 278-3081 or through email at sable@shhpens.org.

We hold a new volunteer orientation once a month, and currently have five (5) morning and afternoon Family Birth Place welcome desk positions to fill.
Sacred Heart Hospital on the Emerald Coast feels enormous gratitude for the outpouring of time, talent, and support it receives from its over 230 active volunteers and the leadership provided by the Guild Board in furthering the growth of our volunteer program and fundraising activities that support our hospital mission.

Volunteers are welcome to contact board members directly with questions or suggestions and if interested, for information on how they can assist on a board committee or sub-committee.

### 2015 Guild Committees

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<td>Ann Perry</td>
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### Changing of the Guard

Kathy Hamilton 2014 Guild President shown congratulating Joe Johnston on his new role as incoming 2015 Guild President.